10/590475 IAP12 Rec'd PCT/PT024 AUG 2006

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 09812.0139

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| and Program Commissioner for Patents | |
| For: Recording Apparatus and Method, Recording Medium, |) |
| Filed: August 24, 2006 |) Confirmation No. Not Yet Assigned |
| Application No.: Not Yet Assigned |) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned |
| Inventors: Atsushi MAE et al. |) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned |
| No. PCT/JP2005/022549 for: |) |

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

- Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-312663 The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application. Also, this document corresponds to U.S. Patent Application
 Publication No. 2004/0126097.
 - 2. JP 2004-288263
 - 3. JP 2000-32378 This document corresponds to U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2001/0041048, 2001/0046373, 2002/0076210 and EP 0 971 535.
 - 4. JP 2003-331526 This document corresponds to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0210895, EP 1 503 380 and WO 03/096342.

An English-language abstract of the documents is enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding application citing these references and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants

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reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 24, 2006

David W. Hill Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures DWH/FPD/alp

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|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | Complete if Known | | | |
| | | | | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| INF | ORMATION D | ISCLOSU | RE | Filing Date | August 24, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Atsushi MAE et al. |
| 317 | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned | | |
| | (Use as many sheets | as necessary) | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 09812.0139 |

| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS | | | | | |
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| | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| | | EP 1 503 380 | 02-02-2005 | SONY CORP et al. | | Yes | | |
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| | | JP 2004-288263 | 10-14-2004 | SONY CORP | | Abstract | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Examiner Cite No.1 | | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | |
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| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.